

## 2011-K541

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending the Turkish Cultural Centers upon the occasion of their 6th Annual Turkish Cultural Day

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body, in keeping with its time-honored traditions, to recognize and pay tribute to those organizations which foster ethnic pride and enhance the profile of cultural diversity which strengthens the fabric of the communities of New York State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend the Turkish Cultural Centers upon the occasion of their 6th Annual Turkish Cultural Day to be celebrated at the Well of the Legislative Office Building of the New York State Assembly on Wednesday, May 18, 2011; and

WHEREAS, The Turkish Cultural Centers are non-profit organizations whose primary goals are to promote harmony by bringing together people of Turkish origin and all other individuals living in the United States; their mission is to create an open dialog while building and fostering a stronger understanding based on mutual respect between the people of the United States of America and those of Turkish background; they aim to introduce the people in the United States with the Turkish history and culture; and

WHEREAS, The Turkish Cultural Centers were first created by Fethullah Gulen, who has devoted his life to an altruistic service of encouraging open dialogue and peace amongst the nations; and

WHEREAS, The goal of the Turkish Cultural Day is to create opportunities for community members and the elected officials to get together, to network and to consult with each other about ways to help diverse communities and contribute to the quality of life in New York State; and

WHEREAS, The Turkish American community is dedicated to building bridges of understanding among people from all walks of life through dialogue and mutual respect; and

WHEREAS, There are 11 Turkish Cultural Centers in New York State, located in Albany, Binghamton, Brooklyn, Buffalo, Long Island, Manhattan, Rochester, Queens, Staten Island, Syracuse and Westchester; they

all promote friendship, peace, and tolerance which create a sense of acceptance within the community; the programs held by the cultural centers give opportunities for diverse communities to connect at common grounds and collaborate for the benefit of all citizens; and

WHEREAS, Organizations of singular distinction as the Turkish Cultural Centers provide a model for enhancing the quality of life in the community and, as such, merit the grateful praise of the community of the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to those organizations of true purpose and worthy accomplishment which foster a spirit of community and service and, simultaneously, work diligently to preserve their rich cultural heritage; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend the Turkish Cultural Centers upon the occasion of celebrating their 6th Annual Turkish Cultural Day; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Turkish Cultural Center, 291 Broadway, Albany, New York 12204.